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URBAN DISTRICT OF FLEET



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

for 1955

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health :

W. C. D. WALMSLEY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

F. E. SMALE, C.R. SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1955

Area : 3,694 acres.

Population : 9,560 (estimated mid-year 1955)—(Census 1951 — 9,018).

Number of inhabited houses : 2,837.

Sum represented by penny rate : £580 (estimated 1. 4. 56).

Rateable value : £152,273.

General rate : 16/6d. in the £.

Birth rate : 16.0 (crude) : 18.56 (standardised).

Death rate : 11.8 (crude) : 8.85 (standardised).

Infantile death rate per 1,000 births : 19.6

Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis : 1.

Deaths from other Tuberculous Diseases : Nil.

Tuberculosis death rate : Pulmonary—0.10 : Non-Pulmonary — Nil.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT FOR 1955

To the Chairman and Members

of the Fleet Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1955, which is prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 17/55.

The general health of the district was satisfactory throughout the year.

The estimated population increased by 300—from 9,260 to 9,560.

A considerable number of new houses, erected by private enterprise and also by the Local Authority, were erected during the year. Many of the people who live in Fleet are employed either at the R.A.E., Farnborough or the National Gas Turbine Establishment of the Ministry of Supply and are housed privately or by the Council in the new houses they have built.

Births numbered 153—an increase of 41; and deaths were 113—an increase of 19.

The infantile mortality rate was low (19.6 per thousand).

There were no special outbreaks of infectious diseases and there were no cases of poliomyelitis.

Diphtheria has not been recorded in Fleet since 1946.

No outbreaks of Sonne Dysentery were recorded in the district. This condition, which can be very troublesome in schools, is very prevalent in many parts; so far this district has escaped. Careful attention to hand washing and personal cleanliness generally, helps greatly in preventing the spread.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—

		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	149	71	78
Illegitimate	...	4	4	—
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ... 16.0.				

Still Births—

Legitimate	...	1	—	1
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
Rate (per 1,000 total births)—Leg. : 6.5. Illeg. : Nil.				

Deaths—

	Total	Male	Female
	113	61	52
Rate (per 1,000 population) 11.8			

Deaths from Puerperal causes : Nil.

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age (per 1,000 live births) :

Legitimate	...	...	...	19.6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	Nil.

Deaths from Cancer : 16.

Deaths from Measles : Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough : Nil.

Deaths from Infantile Paralysis : Nil.

BIRTH RATES

Year	No. of Births	Birth Rate
1951	143	15.7
1952	111	12.4
1953	148	16.6
1954	112	12.1
1955	153	16.0

DEATH RATES

Year	No. of Deaths	Death Rate
1951	125	13.7
1952	129	10.9
1953	99	11.1
1954	94	10.1
1955	113	11.8

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Year	Births	Deaths	Rate per 1000 births
1951	143	—	—
1952	111	3	27.0
1953	148	3	20.3
1954	112	3	26.7
1955	153	3	19.6

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1955

								M	F
Tuberculosis—respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cancer—stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Cancer—lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Cancer—breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Cancer—other	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	13
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	8
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	6
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Total								61	52
Deaths of infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	Total—3	2	1
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	...	...	...	...	...	...	Total	—	—

I desire to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their kindly interest and encouragement in the work of the Department. I desire also to thank Mr. Smale, your Sanitary Inspector, for his excellent help, always willingly given and Miss Judith Noble, who has worked conscientiously throughout the year.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,
Wm. WALMSLEY,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

There are two District Nurses (Miss MacMonigall and Miss Phillips), who are qualified midwives and since the 5th July, 1948, have been under the jurisdiction of the Hampshire County Council.

There is also a Home-help service in operation and this is administered by a County Council organiser with headquarters at Farnborough. Home-helps in Fleet, Hook, Farnborough and Aldershot are on call for full or part-time service in the area, and the local practitioners, as well as the District Nurses, co-operate in the scheme, which is working well.

During 1955, 35 families in the district received domestic aid from the service—(Maternity—3; general sickness—11; aged and sick—9; aged and infirm—8; chronic—1; post hospital—3).

This area for general hospital purposes, comes under the South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

The Fleet and District Hospital contains 33 beds—(9 male, 14 female, 6 children's and 4 private wards) and provides general medical and surgical treatment. There is a separate children's ward. There is no resident Medical Officer. There is a consultant surgical and medical staff in addition to the Doctors in practice in the area, who attend at the hospital.

Cases of infectious Diseases are treated at Northfield Hospital, Aldershot. The ambulance service provides for removal of patients to hospital through the local depots at Aldershot and Farnborough.

The County Council is responsible for School Medical Services, Mental Deficiency, Maternity and Child Welfare, Orthopaedic Services, the care of premature infants and illegitimate children and the Tuberculosis service (prevention, care and after care only).

The special clinic for Venereal Diseases is held at the Manor Park House, Aldershot, and is under the jurisdiction of the Regional Hospital Board, as is the treatment part of the Tuberculosis service.

Laboratory Facilities:

The Public Health Laboratory Service is at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester (telephone 3807), and the Director is Dr. H. T. Findlay. All types of bacteriological examinations are carried out there.

Chemical examinations of water, etc., are carried out at the Borough Analyst's Laboratory, Southampton, by arrangement with the Southampton County Borough Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Diphtheria Immunisation : Fleet.	Clinics are held at the schools as required.
Venereal Diseases : Women	Held every Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 pm. and 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Manor Park House, Manor Park, Aldershot.
Men	Held every Monday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Manor Park House, Manor Park, Aldershot.
Tuberculosis Clinic :	Held every Tuesday 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon at the Northfield Hospital, Aldershot.
Child Welfare :	The second and fourth Tuesdays in every month at the Institute, Albert Street, Fleet.

The County Council Health Visitor and School Nurse is Mrs. Crone and for the Crookham Ward, Miss E. Simpson, H.V., S.R.M., S.C.M.

Outside the District but serving the area, Orthopaedic Clinics for school children and infants are held at Farnborough and Aldershot on alternate first Tuesdays in every month, and School Eye Clinics are held by the County Council at Aldershot as required.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Vaccination.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Vaccination Prophylaxis for infants and school children is done by the Local Authority for the County Council and is a free service. Parents may elect to have their children done privately by their own Doctor. Clinics held at schools would appear to be more successful in getting school children immunised and also for giving “ booster ” doses. Children under school age can still be immunised at the fortnightly child welfare clinic.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There was an increase in the total number of notifications (131 compared with 98 for 1954). This was mainly due to an increase in cases of measles (79 as against 17). Whooping Cough notifications showed a decrease of 36 but there was a sharp increase of 10 in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever. The latter, were, however, of a mild type.

There were again no cases of diphtheria nor of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis).

There were 4 admissions to hospital (1 pneumonia, 1 whooping cough and 2 scarlet fever).

Comparative Tables

Disease	1954	1955
Scarlet Fever	3	13
Pneumonia	19	17
Measles	17	79
Whooping Cough	57	21
Erysipelas	1	1

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.

The following table gives the numbers of children immunised during the year :

Immunisation	Primary	Secondary (Booster)
Diphtheria alone	10	29
Combined Diphtheria/Whooping Cough	92	7
Whooping Cough alone	Nil	Nil
Total	102	36

The majority of the injections were given by private practitioners.

Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases notified during the year was 13 (12 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary)—7 of the cases were transfers from other districts. There was one death from Tuberculosis.

Comparative Tables of New Cases and Deaths

Year	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY
1951	7	—	2	2
1952	10	—	1	—
1953	14	1	—	—
1954	14	1	—	—
1955	12	1	1	—

Venereal Diseases.

No cases of Venereal Diseases were specially brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

Infestation.

No cases of nits or scabies were reported to the Department.

Disinfection.

Six rooms were disinfected after notifiable diseases or on request.

Climate and Meteorology

Although no figures for Fleet itself as regards rainfall and sunshine are available, by kind permission of the Director and Meteorological Officer of the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, I have set out the figures relating to the rainfall and sunshine of the Farnborough District. It is not suggested that these figures are strictly applicable to Fleet but I think it may be presumed that they are sufficiently accurate to be a guide.

Month	Rainfall (m.m.)	Sunshine (hours)
January	77.1	28.0
February	38.2	68.2
March	24.4	152.8
April	5.3	174.5
May	88.9	205.9
June	69.6	147.1
July	12.0	237.4
August	24.6	176.4
September	45.2	142.9
October	106.0	105.5
November	61.0	35.9
December	65.6	23.1
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Total	617.9	1,497.7
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The total rainfall is equivalent to 24.2 inches.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1955

*To the Chairman and Members of the Fleet Urban District
Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1955 and my ninth as your Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply.

The whole of the water supply for the area is provided by the Mid-Wessex Water Company, and I am indebted to the Chief Engineer of the Company for the following report:—

“ 1.—Sources of Supply.

Water is supplied in detail for the whole of the area by the Mid-Wessex Water Company and is obtained from wells in the chalk at Itchel, Greywell and Lasham.

An adequate supply for all purposes without restriction was maintained throughout the year.

2.—Treatment.

The water from the various chalk wells serving the area varies in hardness from 16.5 to 21 grains/gallon and softening by the lime process is normally carried out at Itchel and Greywell in order to reduce the hardness to the statutory limit of 12 grains/gallon.

The water from the Itchel wells was not softened during 1955, and water from the new source at Lasham was also not softened, by virtue of a temporary relaxation Order, made by the Minister of Housing and Local Government as a result of his inability to authorise the reconstruction of the old and inadequate softening plant at Itchel, which had to be taken out of service, and the installation of softening plant at Lasham.

The new softening plant at Itchel, however, was brought into operation on 29th December, 1955, and that for Lasham will be in operation during the latter half of 1956.

The water from all sources is practically sterile in the raw state, before treatment, but is given a precautionary dose of chlorine during the normal process of treatment, in conformity with modern waterworks practice.

3.—Purity of Supply

Samples of water are taken regularly and frequently by the Company before and after treatment at the works and in supply. They are examined chemically and bacteriologically by the Company's resident Chemists and Bacteriologists and in addition samples are submitted to the County's Public Health Laboratory for independent examination and report at regular intervals.

The reports during the past year on all treated waters have shown a consistently high standard of organic and bacterial purity.

4. The water distributed in this area is a normal chalk derived water and has no plumbo-solvent action.

5. No action was necessary, so far as the Company was concerned, to deal with any form of contamination."

Four dwellinghouses formerly with a well supply were provided with a main water supply.

WATER SAMPLING

(a) Public Main Supply.

The four quarterly samples of the Mid-Wessex Water Company's main supply were taken from different parts of the district and all were reported satisfactory. The hardness figures for the four samples were 14 degrees (Clarke's scale), 14.1, 14.1, and 16.3

(b) Swimming Pool.

There is one open-air swimming pool in the district and the water is treated by filtration, chlorination and aeration. The pool was maintained in a satisfactory condition during the season. Two samples of the swimming pool water were submitted for bacteriological examination and in each case no coliform bacilli nor faecal coli were isolated.

(c) Sewage Works Effluent.

The Military Authorities continued to take monthly samples of the effluent from the Military Disposal Works at Crookham and results of the analyses were received by the Department. They were reported satisfactory.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

I am indebted to your Surveyor, Mr. J. D. Chivers, for the following report:—

“ The gas plant, engines and electrical equipment at the Compressor Station, Kenilworth Road, also the pumping plant at Hitches Lane Station, have been maintained in good condition.

The whole of the lifting plant (ejector and pumps) is operating efficiently and deals with the normal flow of sewage in the district.

At the disposal works the scheme for controlling the flow through the system and improvements to the pumping plant, has been approved by the Ministry and the work has now commenced.

The structural alterations are being carried out by Messrs. Bridgewater Bros., of Epsom and the supply of a 5" diameter sludge pump, fittings and erection by the Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., Victoria Street, Westminster.

Messrs. John Taylor & Sons, Consulting Engineers, of Westminster, have been appointed to prepare details and costs for the completion of the main drainage extension scheme for the whole of the district, including the additional requirements for increasing the capacity of the Sewage Outfall Works for an ultimate population of approximately 15,000.

Public Cleansing:

Tipping is still in progress on the Farnham Road Site and regular weekly collections of refuse and salvage have been maintained throughout the district.

The following table shows the income from sales of salvage since 1949:

Year	Total Sales	Average Monthly Sales
1949	£745 0 0	£62 1 7
1950	£530 0 0	£44 3 2
1951	£1,462 0 0	£121 17 5
1952	£1,036 2 9	£86 7 0
1953	£664 0 0	£55 7 4
1954	£738 19 2	£61 11 7
1955	£936 11 2	£78 0 11

The income from salvage increased during the year. A total of 113½ tons of paper was collected, giving a monthly average of 9½ tons.

HOUSING

There was no improvement in the time taken to comply with notices served by the department. The labour for the type of work involved seems very scarce and will probably remain so whilst many small builders are engaged on house building. Little advantage has been taken by owners of low-rented property to carry out repairs and increase the rent under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, possibly because they consider the financial return in increased rent is not enough.

Improvement Grants.

The Council decided in 1954 to implement, in principle, the Housing Act 1949 regarding approval of grants. Enquiries about the grants continued to be made, almost entirely by owner/occupiers, but only one application was received during the year. This was in respect of the conversion of a former stables and coach-house into a dwelling. A grant of £400 was approved, this being the maximum allowed by the Act, and the work was almost completed by the end of the year. This makes a total of three grants approved out of five applications.

Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954.

One "certificate of disrepair" was applied for and granted during the year and after completion of the necessary repairs, the owner's application for a revocation of the certificate was granted early in 1956. This is the only application for certificates of disrepair received since the Act came into operation.

Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954.

Two closing orders under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, were made and both houses were still occupied at the end of the year.

Demolition orders in respect of three dwellinghouses were made and two of the houses were vacated and demolished during the year. An unofficial undertaking not to re-let and demolish was accepted in respect of one house, which was demolished before the end of the year.

The Council's proposals under Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, were submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in August, 1955.

The proposals were that:—

- (1) the estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation and suitable for action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, was 30 and

(2) the period which the Local Authority think necessary for securing the demolition of the properties was five years.

In view of the isolated and scattered nature of the houses concerned, the Council decided to deal with them as individual unfit houses under Section 11 of the 1936 Act, rather than as clearance areas.

The Minister tentatively approved these proposals.

Housing Building Progress

Your Surveyor (Mr. J. D. Chivers) has kindly supplied the following report:—

The following houses were completed during the year:—

Council Housing—Permanent Housing.

Scheme 16—Ryelaw—Messrs. Comben & Wakeling ...	44
Scheme 17—The Lea—N. E. Hants Builders ...	26
Total ...	<hr/> 70 <hr/>

Houses under Construction (at 31st December, 1955).

Scheme 17—The Lea	16
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Total Number of Post-war Houses erected.

Council Houses	328
Private Enterprise	153

I am indebted to your Housing Officer (Mr. F. C. London) for the following report:—

“ The year 1955 saw the completion of the building programme at the Ryelaw Estate. 47 houses were handed over and occupied bringing the total number completed since work was commenced in May 1953, to 138. 31 tenants were nominated by the N.G.T.E., 14 were selected from the Council’s waiting list and 2 were allocated to the Police Authority for the use of Police Officers.

Good progress was made at the Lea Estate, 26 houses being completed and occupied.

“ Woodside,” the last of the requisitioned properties held by the Council was handed back to the owner.

7 tenancies were surrendered during the year, 6 of these were tenants in the employ of the N.G.T.E. who promptly replaced them with other nominees. 26 tenants of the Council were transferred to more suitable accommodation on the same or other Estates.

During the second half of the year the Housing Selection Sub-Committee made a very comprehensive survey of the waiting list and after interviewing 28 applicants were able to ear-mark those who were considered to have the most claim and need to the remaining houses which would complete the Council's post-war building programme.

29 new applications were received during the year.

161 applications remained registered with the Council, of which 31 were for Old Peoples Bungalows."

Caravans.

The caravan site in private ownership at Crookham, which was first licensed in 1951 and has been extended on two occasions since, is now licensed for a total of 53 caravans.

Site works on the last extension site of 1 acre continued during the year and at the end of the year 43 caravans were stationed on the whole site. The site was well maintained during the year and the site operators' attempts to make the place into a garden caravan site by the planting of shrubs, trees, flowers, etc., are now clearly visible, particularly during spring and summer and sites appear to be in great demand.

The policy of the Council with regard to individual sites for caravans is based on that of the County Planning Committee and licences are only granted in respect of sites on which it is the intention of the owners to build houses.

RODENT CONTROL

Meetings of the North Hants Rodent Control Committee, of which the Council is one of the seven constituent members in North East Hants, continued to be held quarterly. Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the War Department attend the meetings.

Locally, a free service to both business and private premises is given.

The annual test baiting of the sewers was not carried out during 1955 under a dispensation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in view of the infestation-free history of the sewerage system for some years.

A summary of the work carried out by the Rodent Operator is given below.

TYPE OF PROPERTY					
	L.A.	Dwelling-houses	Agricultural	Business premises	Total
1. No. of premises inspected ..	2	101	2	36	141
2. No. of premises found to be infested by rats ..	2	76	2	26	106
3. No. of premises found to be infested by mice..	—	19	—	1	20
4. No. of inspected premises treated by L.A. ..	2	95	2	27	126
5. No. of block control schemes carried out		2			
6. No. of visits for inspection and treatment		604			

The Department was without a Rodent Operator for a period of three months during the year owing to the sudden death of Mr. H. P. Parsons. Mr. Parsons was a conscientious servant who did much to keep the rodent control service in an efficient manner.

Another operator was appointed early in December.

Pest Destruction.

The routine measures of spraying the Fleet Pond and small ponds and ditches in the vicinity and treating the road gullies for mosquito prevention were continued.

Six dwellinghouses were treated for infestation, by ants—1; bugs—1; flies—1; cockroaches—2; and wood lice—1.

SHOPS

The County Council are responsible through their Weights and Measures Department for the closing and other provisions of the Shops Acts, except for the sanitary provisions contained in Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950, which is administered by the Local Sanitary Authority. The provisions of the latter section are carried out.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

During the year the following work was carried out in the provision of sanitary accommodation:

New houses (inc. flats, shops, etc.) connected to sewer ...	78
New houses, etc. connected to cesspools	8
Houses with cesspools connected to sewer	4
Houses with pail closets connected to cesspools	3
Houses, etc. with pail closets connected to sewer	1

Sewerage Extension Scheme.

In September, the Minister of Housing and Local Government intimated that he was prepared to consider allowing the remainder of the district sewerage scheme to proceed as soon as possible, either as one contract or in stages as the Council may prefer.

Consulting Engineers were later appointed to submit a report on the scheme and this report was awaited at the end of the year. It is to be hoped that there will arise no further obstacle to delay the scheme in view of the prevailing insanitary conditions in the unsewered parts of the district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

There are three producers of milk within the Urban District, two producing Tuberculin Tested and one ungraded milk.

There are four retailers of bottled milk in the area, an increase of one during the year.

46 inspections of dairies were made during the year and no statutory action was called for, although one case of a dirty milk bottle was investigated and the dairyman's explanation accepted.

On 6th December, the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order, 1955, came into operation, the effect of which was to specify the Urban District as an area (among several others in different parts of the country) in which only tuberculin tested or heat treated milk could be sold. This had no great effect in the district as only a small percentage of the milk supply was previously sold as undesignated.

32 samples of milk were taken for adulteration and all were found to be genuine. Details of all samples, including milk, taken for adulteration will be found in a later paragraph.

Sampling :

A total of 36 samples was taken with the following results :

Designation	No. of samples submitted	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Pasteurised ..	27	26	1	27	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ..	9 **	7	1	8	—
Totals	36	33	2	35	—

** Although 9 samples of T.T. (pasteurised) milk were submitted for examination, results only of 8 samples were recorded as one sample was broken in transit to the Laboratory.

For the first time for several years, samples of heat treated milk failed one of the prescribed tests. One sample of pasteurised and one sample of tuberculin tested (pasteurised) milk failed the Methylene Blue Test. The samples were taken during the very hot summer spell of the year and after consultation with the Public Health Laboratory and failing to find any technical reason for the failure at the local dairy no further action was taken. All the samples passed the phosphatase test.

Of 21 bottled samples (all pasteurised), 15 were from the three schools in the area.

No action was required under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, which provides for action where milk is suspected of having caused diseases in human beings.

Designated Milk :

The following licences were in force at the end of the year :—

Pasteurised (including Tuberculin Tested pasteurised)	1 Dealer's (Pasteuriser's)
Tested pasteurised	2 Dealer's
Sterilised	2 Dealer's

The one pasteurising establishment in the area is licensed by the Local Authority on behalf of the County Council.

Ice Cream.

Thirty-five premises are registered for the retail sale of ice cream under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. One cafe also manufactures and retails ice cream from specially adapted and separate premises. No contraventions of the above statute nor of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, were found. In all but two of the premises registered for the sale of ice cream, only a pre-packed article is sold.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

The butchers in the area, except in one case, obtain all their supplies of meat from wholesalers. One butcher purchases animals at markets and has them slaughtered at a licensed slaughterhouse in Aldershot. The meat is, generally, of a high standard and only relatively small amounts have had to be condemned at the retail shops. There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the area, the two licensed before 1939 not having been re-opened.

The following articles of food were surrendered and condemned as being unfit for human food.

Meat (carcase & offal)	364 lbs.	Fish	.....16½ stones
Poultry (chicken)	..... 27 lbs.	Roes (soft)	..... 7 lbs.
Ham (tinned)	..... 26 lbs.	Roes (savouries)	..... 2 doz.
Sausages	..... 7½ lbs.	Fish Cakes	..... 297
Tomatoes	..... 40 lbs.	Prunes	..... 30 lbs.
Tinned foods (various)	... 44	Biscuits	..... 96 pkts.
Cake Mixture	..... 36 pkts.		

In accordance with Circular 1/54 the following information is given regarding food premises in the area:

Number of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year.

Type of Business	No.
Butchers	8
Bakehouses and confectioners	6
Cooked meats	1
Fish (raw)	3
Fish (fried)	2
Greengrocery	8
Grocers (inc. "mixed" shops)	22
Cafés (inc. snack bars)	9
Factory canteens	1

Number of food premises, by type of business, registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Type of Business	No.
Butchers	5
Ice Cream	35

898 inspections of all types of food premises were carried out during the year.

In 1950 the Council made byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and no statutory action was necessary to ensure compliance with them.

There is no clean food guild in the area, reliance being placed on individual advice and information on food hygiene at routine inspections.

Food Poisoning.

There were no outbreaks of food poisoning reported in the district during the year.

(c) Adulteration, etc.

The County Council is the responsible Authority.

I am indebted to Mr. C. O. Perry, Chief Inspector, for the following report:—

The following is a list of samples taken within the Fleet Urban District during the year.

Article	No. of Samples Taken	
	Genuine	Unsatisfactory
Butter and other fats	1	—
Drugs	1	—
Milk	32	—
Meat Products	2	—
Spirits	2	—
Other Foods	3	—
Ice Cream	1	—
Total ..	42	—

The 32 milk samples contained an average of 4.01% Milk Fat and 8.92% Non-fatty solids. Analysis of the ice cream sample showed that it contained Fat—10.64%; Sugar—13.9%; Dried skimmed milk—11.4%. These percentages are well above the standard prescribed in the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1951, i.e. (Fat—5% ; Sugar—10% ; other than fat—7½%).

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION WORK

Details of the inspections carried out during the year are given in the following table:—

Premises Inspected.							Number of Inspections
Re: Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	527
Stables and piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	171
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Refuse collection (dustbins) and disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Rats and Mice destruction	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Shops (re: Shop Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Swimming pools	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pest Extermination	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Atmospheric pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Infectious diseases and disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Miscellaneous other visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Meat and Food Inspection.

Butchers shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	231
Fishmongers and fishfriers	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Food preparing premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Cafés and canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Miscellaneous milk visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Miscellaneous food visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Dwellinghouses.

Under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Re-inspections under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	163
Under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Re-inspections under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Re Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Miscellaneous housing visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Inspections re overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Re-inspections re overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Inspections re filthy or verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Re "Certificates of disrepair" under 1954 Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Total ... 2281

Drainage.

Alterations, additions and repairs	...	...	...	130
Drain stoppages cleared	...	...	...	117
Drain tests (water and smoke)	...	...	...	416
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	106
Cesspools (loads)	...	...	...	255

The Rodent Operator also carries out the work of unstopping drains, on request, at a charge to the occupier of 2/- per hour. This scheme is to the advantage of the occupier and is instrumental in the prevention of Public Health Nuisances.

Cesspools are emptied at a cost to the occupier of £1 per load of 750 gallons. The work is carried out under contract to the Council by a private contractor (Cleansing Service (Southern Counties) Ltd.). This arrangement works well.

Complaints.

Housing Defects	...	...	...	...	...	9
Rodent Infestation	...	...	...	...	...	74
Drainage (obstructed drains)	...	...	...	...	...	128
Pests (general)	...	...	...	...	...	9
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	1
Public Health Nuisances (general)	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total						226

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1. **INSPECTIONS** for the purposes of provisions as to health made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	4	7
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	43	164
Total ..	47	171

2. **CASES** in which **DEFECTS** were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.I.)	5	5	—
Sanitary conveniences			
(a) Insufficient (S.I.) ..	1	1	—
Other offences against the Act	2	2	2
Total ..	8	8	2

NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR

Form of Notice	Number served	Premises	Defects
Informal :			
(a) Sanitary defects ..	20	20	62
(b) Others	14	14	14
Total ..	34	34	76
Statutory :			
(a) Sanitary defects .	1	1	7
(b) Others	2	2	2
Total ..	3	3	9

In conclusion I must once again express to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee my appreciation of their support and to your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Walmsley. I also express to your Clerk and Surveyor, my thanks for their continued co-operation during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

F. E. SMALE.

Sanitary Inspector.

July, 1956

